

## ***IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER***

### ***Public Notification***

Our water system failed to provide continuous fluoridation in the distribution system as required by EPD from January 9, 2010 through January 13, 2010.

Our water system failed to sample for IOC's (Inorganic Compounds) in 2010.

Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we have done to correct this situation.

We are required to provide continuous fluoridation in the distribution system at all times. From January 9, 2010 through January 13, 2010 we failed to do so. Continuous fluoridation was provided for the other 360 days of 2010 with all state specified guidelines.

We are required to sample for IOC's (Inorganic Compounds) once per year. We did not collect this sample for analysis. IOC sampling monitors for contaminants such as Antimony, Arsenic, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Fluoride, Mercury and many other contaminants. We monitor for Fluoride every day on site at the water treatment plant. As for the other contaminants, our results have always shown "*Not Detected*" by the EPD Laboratory. This means that our water does not have any of these contaminants in it.

### ***What should I do?***

There is nothing that you need to do at this time.

### ***What happened? What is being done?***

All corrective actions have been accomplished.

For more information, please contact Jimmy Knight, Executive Director at (706) 675-3358.

### **General Water Quality Health Effects**

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.*

### **Continuing Our Commitment**

The Heard County Water Authority is proud to present to you our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 2010 through December 2010. We are pleased to tell you that your water meets and exceeds all water quality standards set by the State of Georgia and EPA during the previous year. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Jimmy Knight, Executive Director, Heard County Water Authority, at (706) 675 – 3358.

### **Public Participation**

Our board meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 5:00 P.M. at the Water Authority Office. Please feel

### **Your Water Source**

Your water comes from Centralhatchee Creek and Hillabahatchee Creek and is chemically treated to remove impurities commonly found in surface waters. Chlorine is then added for disinfection and fluoride is added to help prevent dental decay and a corrosion control inhibitor is also added. Source water assessment information may be obtained from the Heard County Water Authority Office at 706-675-3358. The potential pollution sources for surface water from Centralhatchee and Hillabahatchee Creeks within a 7 mile radius includes; a contaminated landfill facility, landfills, railways adjacent to or on bridges crossing over streams and roads adjacent to or bridges crossing over streams. The potential pollution source for surface water within a 20-mile radius is an airport. The overall level of susceptibility for the Heard County Surface Water Intake (WSID #1490000) is Medium for both Centralhatchee and Hillabahatchee Creek.

# *Heard County Water Authority*

## *2010 Annual Water Quality Report*

System I.D. #: GA 1490000



*Picture of Centralhatchee Creek*

## Water Quality Data

The Table in this report lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2010 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

Substance	MCL in mg/L (ppm)	MCLG	Average Results	Range of detections	Violation No/Yes	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria</b>	0	0	0	N/A	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b>	0.08	N/A	0.03	0.03—0.04	No	By-product of disinfection by chlorination
<b>Haloacetic Acids</b>	0.06	N/A	0.03	0.03—0.04	No	By-product of disinfection by chlorination
<b>Total Organic Carbon (TOC)</b>	TT	N/A	1.0	0.7—1.4	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Fluoride</b>	4.0	2.0	0.83	0.45—1.23	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
<b>Turbidity (NTU)</b>	TT	N/A	0.04	0.02—0.28	No	Soil runoff and erosion
	TT	TT	100% < 0.3	N/A		
<b>Chlorine</b>	4.0	4.0	1.44	0.99—1.86	No	Added to the water as a disinfectant
<b>Copper (ppm)</b>	1.3 (AL)	1.3	0.059	NO sample exceeded the Action Level	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
<b>Lead (ppm)</b>	0.015 (AL)	0	0.00	NO sample exceeded the Action Level	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

### Definition of Terms and Abbreviations Used Report

**AL-Action level:** the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal—the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health, MCLGs allow for a margin of safety

**MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level—the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level—the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (corresponds to one minute in two years)

**ppb:** parts per billion or milligrams per liter (corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years)

**TT:** treatment technique- a required process intended to

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land, or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

## General Water Quality Health Effects

*If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. HCWA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.*

*Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

### Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

**Microbial contaminants:** such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants:** such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides:** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants:** which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health and mining activities.